IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An automotive collision mitigation system, comprising:

at least one sensor for sensing a first detection zone and a second detection zone, and

a controller for predicting <u>a primary severity of a primary impact sensed in said first detection zone, and a secondary severity of a secondary impact sensed in said second detection zone, and</u> at least one countermeasure attribute responsive to said at least one sensor, <u>said countermeasure attribute reducing the combined severity of said primary impact and said secondary impact</u>.

2. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one sensor senses a parameter for determining the likelihood and severity of a collision in a frontal detection zone.

3. (Original) The system of Claim 2, wherein said at least one sensor senses a parameter for determining the likelihood and severity of a collision in a rear detection zone.

4. (Original) The system of Claim 3, wherein said controller determines a first countermeasure attribute responsive to when said at least one sensor senses a parameter for determining the likelihood and severity of a frontal collision only.

5. (Original) The system of Claim 4, wherein said controller determines said first countermeasure attribute responsive to the magnitude of said parameter for determining the likelihood and severity of said frontal collision.

6. (Original) The system of Claim 5, wherein said magnitude of said parameter for determining the likelihood and severity of said frontal collision varies between a predetermined range.

7. (Original) The system of Claim 3, wherein said controller determines a second countermeasure attribute responsive to when said at least one sensor senses a parameter for determining the likelihood and severity of a rear collision only.

8. (Original) The system of Claim 7, wherein said controller determines said second countermeasure attribute responsive to the magnitude of said parameter for determining the likelihood and severity of said rear collision.

9. (Original) The system of Claim 8, wherein said magnitude of said parameter for determining the likelihood and severity of said rear collision varies between a predetermined range.

10. (Original) The system of Claim 3, wherein said controller determines a third countermeasure attribute responsive to when said at least one sensor senses a parameter for determining the likelihood and severity of a frontal collision and a rear collision.

11. (Original) The system of Claim 10, wherein said controller determines said third countermeasure attribute responsive to the magnitude of said parameter for determining the likelihood and severity of said frontal collision and said rear collision.

12. (Original) The system of Claim 11, wherein said magnitude of said parameter for determining the likelihood and severity of said frontal collision and said rear collision varies between a predetermined range.

13. (Currently Amended) An automotive collision mitigation system, comprising:

at least one sensor for sensing a first detection zone and a second detection zone;

a controller for predicting <u>a primary severity of a primary impact sensed in said first detection zone, and a secondary severity of a secondary impact sensed in said second detection zone, and</u> at least one countermeasure attribute responsive to said at least one sensor, <u>said countermeasure attribute reducing the combined severity of said primary impact and said secondary impact</u>; and

said at least one countermeasure attribute for determining the activation of at least one of an accelerating, steering or braking system.

14. (Original) The system of Claim 13, wherein said at least one countermeasure attribute includes a parameter for activating at least one of said accelerating, steering or braking systems.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for automotive collision mitigation, comprising the steps of:

sensing a first detection zone and a second detection zone utilizing at least one sensor; and

predicting <u>a primary severity of a primary impact sensed in said first detection zone, and a secondary severity of a secondary impact sensed in said second detection zone, and</u> at least one countermeasure attribute responsive to said at least one sensor, <u>said countermeasure attribute reducing the combined severity of said primary impact and said secondary impact</u>..